

SENATE BILL 450  
By Crutchfield

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-29-105, relative to restoration of suffrage rights.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-29-105, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

(d) Notwithstanding any provision of this section or any other law to the contrary, for all persons convicted of infamous crimes on or after July 1, 2001, the following additional procedures apply:

(1) A person rendered infamous or deprived of suffrage rights by the judgment of any state or federal court shall have full suffrage rights restored upon:

(A) Being sentenced to probation by the sentencing judge;

(B) Being granted parole by the board of probation and parole; or

(C) Being granted final release from the term of incarceration to which the person was sentenced.

(2) Any person eligible for restoration of suffrage rights pursuant to the provisions of this subsection shall be issued a certificate of suffrage restoration upon a form prescribed by the coordinator of elections, by:

(A) The sentencing judge;

(B) The board of probation and parole; or

(C) The incarcerating authority.

(3) Any person whose suffrage rights have been restored pursuant to this subsection shall submit a certified copy of the certificate of suffrage restoration to the administrator of elections of the county in which the person is eligible to vote. The administrator of elections shall verify with the coordinator of elections that a certificate of suffrage restoration was issued and, upon receiving verification, shall issue the person a voter registration card entitling the person to vote.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001, the public welfare requiring it.